

2 EDWARD VII., A. 1902

and remains inside it until it develops into a perfect beetle. There is only one weevil in a seed, and from the time the young grub enters it, it remains there until it is full grown. Many beetles in certain years emerge in the autumn, and they then pass the winter beneath rubbish, under the shingles of barns and outhouses and in other hiding places.

Q. Will they live outside the pea ?

A. Yes. They will if they get a suitable hiding place. Some years ago at a place near Picton, the name of which I forget at the moment, I found the Pea Weevil dead in enormous numbers under the shingles of a barn, where they had collected to pass the winter. The shingles were lifted up in a few places by the gentleman who took me to see them, and hundreds of them were found there. Large numbers of them had evidently emerged in the autumn, and had been killed by the winter. A season which induces this early emergence is a great advantage, because, when they do that, many of the beetles will be destroyed before they can do any harm. The usual method for these insects is to pass the winter inside the peas and they are then carried to the fields in the spring and sown with the seeds, when of course they infest the next crop. United action is no doubt the proper thing, and, if all farmers would fumigate their seed in the way I have stated, much good would be done and large numbers of this injurious insect destroyed.

Q. How do the bugs get air. There seems to be a solid cap over them in the pea ; they cannot live without air, can they ?

A. No.

Q. Then how do they get it ?

A. Enough penetrates through the skin of the pea. The quantity of air required is a difficult thing to decide upon. In this room it would be possible for us to live for a long time, even if it were closed up, because although it would seem to be air tight, air would be getting in all the time through innumerable imperceptible chinks.

By Mr. Erb :

Q. At what stage is it when it lays its eggs. Is it a beetle or a moth ?

A. A beetle.

THE PEA MOTH.

But there is another injury to peas done by the caterpillar of a moth, which never penetrates the pea, but eats it from the outside. Through the provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia the chief injury to peas is done by the Pea Moth, of which the egg is laid on the outside of the pea-pod, in the same way as by the Pea Weevil, but the young caterpillar, after eating its way in, attacks three or four of the peas on the outside, leaving large cavities in their sides and webbing them together with silk.